

The following extracts were read from a letter addressed to the Secretary by Mr. E. P. Ramsay, C.M.Z.S., dated Cardwell, Queensland, April 2, 1874 :—

“ I find the Cassowary (*Casuarius australis*) by no means rare here, and have secured a fine bird alive for the Society, which I propose sending to you the first chance I have. I hope to be able to get another soon. I have also the egg ; it closely resembles that of Bennett’s Cassowary (*C. bennetti*), and is of about the same size. The birds had only laid four eggs when the nest was found ; it was placed in a dense scrub at the foot of climbing palms (*Calamus*).

“ I would have written before about the Cassowary ; but it was in a very wretched state when I got it, and so weak that it could not stand. I was afraid it would die, and, remembering the fate of the young Lyre-birds which I had some years ago, was somewhat superstitious. At present, however, at any rate, the Cassowary is all right, and takes good care that no one shall interfere with its domain. I have had a yard built for it here ; it is very pugnacious, and kicks and hisses violently at any strangers ; it is very fond of bathing. This species (*C. australis*) swims *well*, and the birds have frequently escaped me by swimming across the creeks. I find they are not rare on Hinchinbrook Island, and to get there must swim across a distance of two miles from the mainland. The specimen I have is about 3 feet 6 inches in height, and can reach over 6 feet, and, by jumping, 10 feet high. I have known one in the possession of Subinspector Johnstone of the Police to jump out of its enclosure over a fence more than 6 feet 6 inches high. This specimen was only about 2 feet 6 inches in height and about half the size of my bird, which is now just getting its helmet.”

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Major Irby, F.Z.S., exhibited specimens of an apparently new species of Raven, which he had lately obtained in the vicinity of Tangier, Morocco, and which he was intending to describe under the name of *Corvus tingitanus*.

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Prof. Owen, F.R.S., read the fifth of his series of memoirs on the osteology of the Marsupialia.

This paper will be printed entire in the Society’s ‘Transactions.’

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The following papers were read :—

1. Descriptiones Annulorum novorum mare Ceylonicum habitantium ab honoratissimo Holdsworth collectorum, auctore Dr. ED. GRUBE.

[Received May 6, 1874.]

Inter Annulata ab honoratissimo Holdsworth in mari Ceylonico collecta, a me perlustrata, nonnulla erant mihi nondum cognita, quorum descriptiones, quum de coloribus mensurisque animalium

viventium nihil mihi traditum esset, solum e speciminibus alcohole servatis hoc loco in medium conferam.

CHLOËIA, Sav.

CHLOËIA CEYLONICA, n. sp. (an var. *Chl. flavæ*, Pall.?).

*Oblonga, subtus latior, antrorsum citius, retrorsum lentius magisque attenuata, depressa, pallide carneâ, stria dorsi media nigra, angusta, pallide limbata, ad confinia segmentorum interrupta; segmentis 35, ad latera stria transversa nigra ante fasciculos setarum decurrente, medio interrupta ornatis; tentaculum impar cirrique dorsuales nigri. Lobus capitalis ovalis, fronte biloba; caruncula segmento setigero primo et secundo affixa, usque ad quintum patens, posteriora versus attenuata, parte horizontali basali dense tenere plicata, crista supra nigra, utrinque paribus foliolorum fere 30 ornata, tentaculo impari longior. Oculi 4; tentacula superiora 2 impari breviora, inferioribus longiora et hæc tenuiora; segmenta buccalia 4, segmenta mediî corporis 5plo fere vel 6plo latiora quam longa; branchiæ anteriores et posteriores longitudine decrescentes, majores utrinque ramos fere 7 pinnatos mittentes, segmentorum anteriorum 3 nullæ; cirri dorsuales ventralibus alterum tantum longiores, setas ventrales superantes, ad fasciculum setarum primum, secundum, tertium duplices, interiores albidî, exteriores, primo excepto, nigri; cirri ventrales longitudine  $\frac{1}{4}$  fere latitudinis ventris æquantes; cirri anales digitiformes, dorsualibus proximis breviores, ventralibus longiores; setæ flavidæ, fasciculi dorsualis radiantes, minus numerosæ, apice crenulato-serrato, inferiores multo longiores, penicillum densum componentes, multo tenuiores, apice bifurco.*

Longitudo 42 m., latitudo 8 m., cum fasciculis setarum corpori appressis 13 m.

NEREIS, L. (sens. str. Cuv.).

NEREIS FESTIVA, sp. nov.

*Ex carneo flavescens, segmentis 96 supra fascia transversa angusta, subtus simili lineari serieque transversa macularum nigrarum 4 ornatis, lingulis punctoque singulo ad basin inferiorem pinnæ nigris; segmentis mediis duplo fere latioribus quam longa. Lobus capitalis ex hexagono suborbicularis, postice haud emarginatus, parvus, longitudine segmenti buccalis, latitudine  $\frac{1}{4}$  ejus æquante, margine frontali punctis nigris 3, posteriore 2 infracta; oculi pæne quadratum componentes; tentacula alba, inter se distantia, longitudine lobi capitalis; subtentacula haud longius prominentia, articulis æque longis, basali nigro muculato; segmentum buccali proximo paulo longius, fascia dorsuali medio dilatata; cirri tentaculares superiores posteriores longitudine segmentorum fere 10, ceteri multo breviores. Pharynx exsertilis subbrevis; pars ovalis subtus utrinque arcubus linearibus paragnathorum tenerimorum, serieque media transversa striolarum transversarum duplicium 4, ex paragnathis æque distinguendis compositarum armata; maxillæ pallide flavæ, denticulis fere 6 munitæ, apice*

nigro. *Pinnæ breves, æquales; lingulæ longiusculæ, obtusæ, superiores æque longæ, inferiore magis prominentes; labium pharetræ inferioris lingula sua brevius latius, subpentagonum, a lingula media distans; pharetra superior inferiore vix minus lata, labio distincto nullo; setæ spinigeræ et falcigeræ, falce brevi, numerosæ, flabellum lutum efficientes; cirrus dorsualis dupla lingulæ suæ longitudine, ventralis sua satis minus prominens. Cirri anales longissimi, cirros tentaculares longiores superantes.*

Longitudo ad 51 m., latitudo maxima (circa segmentum 26<sup>um</sup>) 2·5 m., pinnis additis 3·5 m.

Hæc species *Platynereidibus* Kinbergi adnumeranda.

### HESIONE, Sav.

#### HESIONE CEYLONICA, sp. nov.

*Ex fulvescente rosea, splendens, leviter iridicolor, dorso medio e longitudine lineis fuscioribus subviolaceis fere 11 contiguis, postremum versus evanescentibus striato, partibus lateralibus sepositis, e longitudine sulcatis, segmentis 19 (setigeris 16), alterum tantum latioribus quam longis, anterioribus et posterioribus 4 longitudine et latitudine decrescentibus; lobus capitalis transverse ovalis, pone medium latior, bipartitus, segmento buccali penitus impressus, longitudine segmenti setigeri primi; tentacula brevissima 2; oculi 4, anteriores æque distinguendi; segmentum buccale lobo capitali minus prominens in confinibus pharyngis exsertilis utrinque puncto nigro ornatum; cirri tentaculares superiores  $\frac{1}{4}$  longitudinis corporis æquantes vel superantes, inferiores plus dimidio breviores; cirri dorsuales, anterioribus postremis exceptis, subæquales, latitudinem corporis æquantes, ut tentacularis dense transverse striati, cirri ventrales cum setis pinnarum æque prominentes; pinnæ subconicæ, dense annulatæ, longitudine  $\frac{1}{3}$  latitudinis ventris æquantes, utrinque decrescentes; setæ flavæ, plus vicinæ, falcigeræ, falce minus elongata, apice bidente; segmentum postremum brevissimum; cirri annales læsi, crassitudine dorsualium proximorum.*

Longitudo 25 m., latitudo maxima dorsi 4 m., pinnis additis (sine setis) plus 5 m.

Species cum *Hesione splendida*, Sav., maxime congruens, sed dorso fuscius lineato, haud transverse sulcato, cirrisque tentacularibus longioribus differens.

### GLYCERA, Sav.

#### GLYCERA CINNAMOMEA, sp. nov.

*Ex cinnamomeo carnea, anteriora versus minus, posteriora versus sensim satis attenuata; segmentis 19½ biannularibus, annulo pinnigero paulo crassiore duplo vel triplo latioribus quam longis, anterioribus per se brevioribus; lobus capitalis brevis, longitudine segmentorum pinnigerorum proximorum 5, paulo longior quam latus, annulis 11; tentacula 4 brevissima; pinnæ æquales, papilla brevi (cirro dorsali) ad basim labiisque 4 triangulis, et cirro ventrali, omnes anterioribus 25 et posterioribus 20 exceptis longitudine plerumque  $\frac{1}{4}$  latitudinis segmentorum æquantes branchia dorsuali*

*instructæ, posteriores per se longiores; labia anteriora inter se ut posteriora æque longa, posteriora breviora; cirrus ventralis, triangulus, basi latiore, cum labiis posterioribus fere æque prominens; branchia ad basin pinnæ prope papillam dorsualem oriens, a labiis remota, erecta, digitiformis, simplex, rarissime bifurca, apicem pinnæ attingens vel brevior, in pinnis anterioribus et posterioribus longitudine maxime decrescens; cirrorum analium 1 tantum conservatus, longitudine segmentorum proximorum fere 8; pharynx exsertilis papillis brevissimis digitiformibus oblecta, sed pars basalis sola exserta.*

Longitudo 94 m., latitudo maxima (circa segmentum 75<sup>um</sup>) 3 m., pinnis additis sine setis 4·5 m.

Species *Glycera albæ* Müll. simillima, colore brunnescente locoque originis branchiæ basin pinnæ proximo, haud super cirrum ventralem sito, distinguenda.

#### CHÆTOPTERUS, Cuv.

##### CHÆTOPTERUS APPENDICULATUS, sp. nov.

*Subgriseus, segmentis fere 46, sectionis anterioris præter buccale 10, mediæ 4, posterioris fere 31; tentacula longitudine latitudinem segmenti buccalis adæquantia; sectio anterior antrorsum paulo angustior, longior quam lata; pinnæ anteriores 8, ad basin dorsualem appendice parva sacciformi obtusa interiore munitæ, quarta sub paleis flavis fortiores 10 fere nigras gerens, decima prælonga, longitudine sectionis anterioris; sacci dorsuales sectionis mediæ, inprimis anterioris, tumidissimi; uncini tororum ventralium sectionis posterioris tenerrimi, denticulis brevissimis fere 20 armati; cetera cum Chætoptero variopedato conveniunt.*

Longitudo ad 124 m., sectionis anterioris 25 m., mediæ 31·5 m., posterioris 68 m.

Corpus animalis descripti minime integrum, sed fragmenta tantum accepi, quorum unum sectionem anteriorem, dua mediam, tria conjuncta posteriorem referebant; quum vero hæc omnia accuratissime inter se convenirent, non dubito, quin ejusdem animalis partes sint, fortasse post mortem demum dissolutæ\*.

Tubus amplus perlongus diametro fere 22 m., longitudine 364 m., tuborum *Chætopterorum* natura, quem siccatum cum Annulatis hic descriptis accepi, ad hanc speciem referendus sit. Cylindratus est, utrinque paulo angustatus, ex stratis membranaceis materiæ chitinossæ tenerrimis hyaliniis compositus, superficie striis densissimis rugulisque annularibus repleta, colore arenaceo.

#### SABELLA, Gr. (sens. str., Sav.).

##### SABELLA FUSCO-TÆNIATA, sp. nov. (an var. *phæotæniæ*, Schmd.?).

*Gracilis, ex griseo lutea, scutis ventralibus ex pupurascente fuscis, segmentis plus 70, sectionis anterioris longioris quam lata 8, triplo*

\* [Mr. Holdsworth informs me that Dr. Grube is correct in believing that the fragments submitted to him composed the whole of this worm, and that it was taken whole from the tube associated with it.—P. L. S.]

*fere, ceteris Aplo latioribus quam longa; scuta ventralia alterum tantum fere latiora quam longa, sectionis anterioris haud bipartita. Branchiæ æquales, pallide luteæ, fasciis maculisve nullis, semiorbes referentes, longitudine segmentorum anteriorum 32, lamina basali minus alta,  $\frac{1}{6}$  longitudinis branchiarum adæquante; fila branchialia utrinque 13 (14) æque longa, apice nudo  $\frac{1}{5}$  longitudinis æquante, utrinque serie ocellorum punctiformium, a media branchiarum altitudine adscendente, ante apicem desinente instructæ; ocelli nigri, simplices, rhachi profunde inserti, numerosi, plus triceni; barbulae filorum haud flexuosæ,  $\frac{1}{8}$  longitudinis eorum æquantes; membrana bases filorum conjungens, lamina basali altior; tentacula  $\frac{1}{3}$  altitudinis branchiarum paulo superantia; collare humillimum, annulare, margine ventrali medio vix inciso, colore branchiarum. Tori uncinigeri sectionis anterioris lati, posterioris angustissimi; uncini aviculares, ordine simplici collocati; fasciculi setarum sectionis anterioris crassiores, posterioris tenuiores, utrinque setas capillares et paleas continentes, primus ceteris latior; setæ capillares sectionis posterioris tenerimæ, haud limbatae, leniter curvatae, anterioris fortiores; palea disco suborbiculari, mucrone subtilissimo instructæ, sectionis anterioris sub denæ, distichæ, posterioris quinæ.*

Longitudo animalis haud completi 42·5 m., branchiarum 13, sectionis corporis anterioris 4 m., posterioris 25·5 m.

*Sabellæ alticolli* Gr. et *S. phæotæniæ* Schmd. simillima, sed in descriptione hujus ocelli haud commemorantur, et branchiæ fasciatae sunt, basi collarique fusco, in *S. alticolli* lamina basalis multo altior est et ocelli minus numerosi.

## 2. On the Habits of *Spermophila simplex*.

By W. NATION, C.M.Z.S.

[Received May 15, 1874.]

This plain-coloured *Spermophila* (lately described by M. Tacznowski\*) is abundant near Lima, and, I believe, ranges a considerable distance north and south of Lima along the coast.

It frequents shrubs and bushes bordering cultivated land and watercourses, and gardens. It feeds upon the seed of the numerous *Malvaceæ* which abound along the coast of Peru. In the breeding-season it is found singly or in pairs, and in winter in small parties with individuals of *Zonotrichiu pileata* and *Spermophila telasco*.

The nest, which is placed upon a branch of a low bush, is composed wholly of the fine twining stems and tendrils of *Passiflora minima*, with a few horsehairs for a lining.

The eggs are three in number, greenish, blotched with pale brown, interspersed with a few deep-brown blotches.

The habits, nest, and eggs of this bird differ considerably from those of *Spermophila*. In *Spermophila* we find a slenderer form, a

\* P. Z. S. 1874, p. 132.